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R. Craig Lord
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY

(856) 235-4237

Shavings

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Reflections on the Journey so far



As I plan our thirtieth anniversary celebration the same questions keep coming up. What was your favorite project? Which project is the most memorable? Who was your favorite client? All are legitimate questions and very difficult to answer.

Certain projects have had a significant impact. I remodeled Lenola School, where I attended grade school and my mother taught kindergarten for years, into apartments for MEND. That was pretty cool and it also began my longtime relationship with MEND.

The commercial projects tend to be the most visible. Moorestown Friends Thrift Shop, Workman's Bike Center, Edgar Real Estate, and First Baptist Church are all projects that I drive by every day. I take great pride in these projects, but are they more significant than the woman who proudly shows me the kitchen that we did ten years ago which looks like new and which she still loves? I think not.

Some projects were technically very challenging like the curved wall at Zimmer's breakfast room or the lowering of Pruitt's

basement floor. Other projects were kind of quirky. We built a stage for a wedding, a wooden facsimile of a Russian mobile missile launcher and the bridge over the stream on the 18th hole at Willowbrook Country Club.

While we have a long list of completed projects, some that even won national recognition; it has been my relationships with my clients that have been the most rewarding part of my career. You can't build a company like ours without good clients and we have had the best. Even with all the plans and specs and meetings in the world, remodeling is still a leap of faith from the client's perspective. They have to trust you. We work hard to build and maintain that trust. I know we are successful when, through the course of multiple projects, as the family needs change, I get to see their children grow up, marry and have kids of their own.

As for my favorite clients, I really have enjoyed you all, but my favorites are ones we never met. These were the people in Bayou LaBatre, Alabama, who lost their roofs in Hurricane Katrina. A crew of men from my company and church worked for an entire week fixing those roofs. With one notable exception, one lady fixed two amazing lunches for us, we did not meet the people we were working for. I am sure they had their hands full. Providing basic shelter for these people was the most rewarding job of all.

As we celebrate this thirtieth anniversary we will get the chance to help again. This time our benefactor will be Urban Promise and their wonderful programs in the city of Camden. Once again we will help people we will probably never meet, but we will all be better for it.

Fall Seminar Schedule



R. Craig Lord University is proud to announce the Summer 2010 schedule offerings. All seminars begin at **10:00 AM** and are complimentary and limited to the first 15 registered guests. To register, call: (856)235-4237 or email: ines@craiglord.com.

September 18th: "Remodeling 101-5 Common Mistakes"

Learn how to avoid common mistakes that can turn a remodeling project into a disaster. You will get the information you need to have a successful project. R. Craig Lord, President, presents.

September 25th: "Re-Green Your Home"

From energy saving improvements, to sustainable material selections, learn how to "green up" your next remodeling project. Anthony Provost, certified Home Performance Auditor, presents.

October 2nd: "Windows, Windows, Windows"

Become an expert on the different window products available and find out what is best for your home. Steve Thompson of North American windows will be on hand to take you through the whole process.





News in the Neighborhood

As we complete a very busy Spring schedule the neighborhood is full of the sounds of progress and the streets are lined with white trucks. Catherine and Michele Merckx are occupying their new home enjoying, I hope, their new wiring, HVAC system, insulation, plastering and finished floors. Welcome to Moorestown! Mark and Ann Baiada have a new Master Bedroom suite and Kevin and Nancy Chumney have a completely remodeled third floor. Bernadette and Paul Curtis will soon be cooking in a new Kitchen as will Vin and Celia Moncholi.



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Lead Carpenter: Alberto Torres

Alberto joined us in 2010 with over 17 years experience as a carpenter. Though he specialized as a framer for several years, Alberto is also a highly skilled finish carpenter. "The best part of the job is witnessing the transformation of a space, especially when the finishes are put in place." His attention to detail and professional demeanor make him a natural fit with our team. After only his first job completion, Mr. Torres received a "Perfect 4" on the Guild Quality completion survey. A 1994 graduate of Burlington County Technical Institute, he now resides in Browns Mills with his wife Christina and their two children, Alberto Jr. and Dominick. In addition to his duties here at R. Craig Lord Construction, Staff Sergeant Torres proudly serves in the US Marine Corps as a Motor Transportation Maintenance Chief. In his spare time, Alberto enjoys restoring classic cars. His current project is a 1968 Pontiac Firebird.